

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please add the following at the top of page 1 of the English translation:

VESSEL FILTER

CROSS-REFERENCES TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a National Stage of International Application PCT/DE2003/004199, filed December 12, 2003. Applicant claims foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a) – (d) of the following foreign application for patent: German Application No. 102 58 708.6, filed December 12, 2002, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

On page 1, please amend the first paragraph as follows:

The invention concerns a vessel filter ~~according to the preamble of Claim 1~~ that includes a conductor loop that forms the inductance of an electrical resonance circuit .

On page 2, please amend the first two paragraphs as follows, forming one paragraph:

This task is accomplished according to the invention by a vessel filter with the features of ~~Claim 1~~ a conductor loop, forming the inductance of an electrical resonance circuit. Preferred and advantageous embodiments of the invention are mentioned in the dependent claims. ~~The vessel filter has at least one conductor loop that forms the inductance of an electrical resonance circuit.~~ The conductor loop forms the vessel filter or at least parts of the vessel filter. The concept according to the invention therefore lies

in using only one structure, namely, a conductor loop, both to form the actual filter and for the inductance. In combination with a capacitance, a resonance circuit is therefore provided.

On page 6, please delete the text beginning at the eleventh (11th) full paragraph, as follows:

~~The invention is further explained below, with reference to the figures of the drawing, by means of several practical examples. In the drawing:~~

On page 6, preferably as starting on a new page please insert the following heading and one paragraph, as follows:

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

A vessel filter according to the present invention includes a conductor loop, forming the inductance of an electrical resonance circuit. The conductor loop forms the vessel filter or at least parts of the vessel filter. The concept according to the invention therefore lies in using only one structure, namely, a conductor loop, both to form the actual filter and for the inductance. In combination with a capacitance, a resonance circuit is therefore provided.

On page 6, preferably as starting on a new page, please insert the following heading prior to the last sentence:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

On page 8, after line 15 and prior to line 16, please insert the following heading and paragraph and then correct the next paragraph as follows:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

For the purposes of promoting an understanding of the principles of the invention, reference will now be made to the embodiments illustrated in the drawings and specific language will be used to describe the same. It will nevertheless be understood that no limitation of the scope of the invention is thereby intended, such alterations and further modifications in the illustrated device, and such further applications of the principles of the invention as illustrated therein being contemplated as would normally occur to one skilled in the art to which the invention relates.

In [[Fig.]] Figs. 1a-1e, vessel filters are shown in the variant of a so-called umbrella filter. The umbrella filter 10 in Fig. 1a is designed as a double-filter in which a conductor loop 11a forms an elongated base 12a and, on both long sides, base 12a is guided, so that two filter cages 13a, 13b are formed, each of which consists of a number of conductor loop windings 14, 14a arranged in a circle. At the center of base 12a, two capacitances C1, C2 are formed, or provided as separate parts. The entire vessel filter, apart from any additional capacitances, is made from a conductor loop 11a.

On page 9, please amend the second paragraph as follows:

The conductor loop forms an inductance that produces an oscillating circuit with the capacitance. The oscillating circuit can be excited by the high-frequency field of an MR imaging system so that improved viewing occurs in the MR image. The optionally present diodes permit tuning of the resonance frequency, as described in WO-A1 99/19739, entitled MR IMAGING METHOD AND MEDICAL DEVICE FOR USE IN METHOD, by inventors Melzer and Busch, filed April 22, 1999, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.

On page 13, after the fourth paragraph, please insert the following paragraph:

While the invention has been illustrated and described in detail in the drawings and foregoing description, the same is to be considered as illustrative and not restrictive in character, it being understood that only the preferred embodiment has been shown and described and that all changes and modifications that come within the spirit of the invention are desired to be protected.

On page 13, please delete the present heading of “Claims” and replace it with the following:

CLAIMS

On page 16, preferably starting on a new page, please insert the following heading and following paragraph:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention relates to a vessel filter comprising at least one conductor loop (21) which forms the inductance of an electric resonance circuit. According to the invention, the conductor loop (21) forms the vessel filter or parts of a vessel filter. The invention provides a vessel filter which is characterized by good mechanical properties, especially a high degree of flexibility and stability, offering good representability in MR imaging systems.